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INT 762/1

January 11, 1949

Memorandum

To: The Acting Secretary

Through: S/S

From: R - E Park Armstrong, Jr.

Subject: Attached letter re Proposed Revisions to CIA Legislation

Discussion:

1. The proposed revision of CIA enabling legislation involves two major subjects of interest to the Department: an exception to the normal immigration procedures, and administrative arrangements for CIA overseas personnel.

2. With respect to the immigration clause which permits the bringing into the United States of up to 100 individuals without regard to immigration statutes, the following is pertinent:

(a) In discussion with Admiral Hillenkoetter, it is understood that you gave informal approval to this clause.

(b) The Visa Division has concurred in this clause of the legislation and, in fact, in consultation with CIA representatives has suggested improvements in the phraseology which have been adopted by the CIA according to the attachment.

3. With respect to the administrative clauses:

(a) These were approved a year ago when almost identical legislation was put forward by the CIA; it was, in fact, only with the immigration clause that the Department found exception.

(b) The specific grants in powers of this legislation are being sought by the CIA now as a result of requests by the General Accounting Office, and are in accordance

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with their specifications. It is understood that the Bureau of the Budget also concurs in the need for such modifications to the CIA enabling legislation.

- (e) On the whole, the legislation tends to legalize procedures which have been followed in the past two years and which are intended to make the administration of CIA overseas personnel as much like the administration of Foreign Service personnel as is possible.

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached letter concurring in the CIA legislation.

Concurrence:

EUR, OPS, COM, ODA, OBP, L/A, C/L

Attachment:

Letter to Mr. James E. Webb, Director,
Bureau of the Budget, with attachments.

R:PH/owen mwm

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My dear Mr. Webb:

The Department has received your letter of December 24, in which comment is requested by the Bureau of the Budget on the "Proposed Central Intelligence Act of 1947" submitted by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Department perceives no objection to this proposed legislation. You will note that one clause, 6(g), has been revised in consultation with CIA, according to the attachment.

The Department believes that despite the extraordinary grant of powers involved, such legislation is entirely proper and necessary for the efficient operation of an intelligence service.

Sincerely yours,

Inclosure

Revised draft of
Section 6(g).

The Honorable

James E. Webb, Director,

The Bureau of the Budget.

R:HMo:ewm
1-11-49

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Original document

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [redacted]
FROM : F. Howe
SUBJECT:

DATE: December 20, 1946

This is CIA's draft revision of its basic enabling legislation.

The only part which I believe concerns us is the section which authorizes them to bring up to 100 individuals into the country each year without regard to the emigration or any other laws. You will remember that through Larry Houston we inquired informally whether this could be expanded so that possible needs of the Department could be included, probably with the legal concurrence of the Secretary of State, but CIA refused. Larry Houston has told me informally that Hillenkoetter is prepared to reduce the number to 50 at the first sign of Congressional objection to the number of 100.

You will remember also that, as is noted toward the end of the discussion, the Visa Division objected to this type of provision in the submission last year of proposed legislation. This objection seems to have been a gratuitous comment on matters outside of their competence and Mr. Ivett in conversation with Hillenkoetter has recently concurred informally in the proposal. The Visa Division, however, may again put up an objection since it could be interpreted as an invasion of their tightly held responsibility of determining who gets a visa.

If you should not find any objection to the administrative clauses which correspond to the Foreign Service Act of 1946,

The only question, therefore, is whether we wish at this juncture to make any further effort to broaden the scope of the emigration/visa clause. I am at a loss to make a firm recommendation to you on this but would like you to consider the advisability of discussing this question informally with Hillenkoetter. Among other things, the Secretary of State is excluded from any participation in the introduction of the proposed 100 a year, and unquestionably CIA would be under no obligation to comply with a request for them to apply this provision for an individual wanted by the Department of State.

JH

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January 10, 1949

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Mr. Alexander:

Attached is what Mr. Houston of CIA wished to discuss with you. I called his office to tell him that you would be unable to see him and spoke to Mr. Pforzheimer.

Mr. Pforzheimer sent attached over by hand for your concurrence. Mr. Pforzheimer may be reached by phone Code 143, X 733 or 734.

Mr. Houston is also on X 733.

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R
Mr. Houston -

I said this to you in accordance with our telephone understanding that you will tell Mr. Houston he has no objections.

RJ

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